

REMARKS

The Examiner has issued an Official Action requiring restriction between two groups of inventions. The groups identified by the Examiner are:

Group I: Claims 1-10 drawn to a method for manufacturing metallic nanoparticles and

Group II: Claims 12-19 drawn to an apparatus for production of metallic nanoparticles.

Applicants respectfully traverse this restriction requirement.

The applicants believe that the issue here is not whether the feature of the nanoparticles is known in the art but whether the apparatus carries out the method of claims 1-10 and 21 to produce the metallic nanoparticles. Since the apparatus can be used to carry out the method, it is applicants' position that a single invention is claimed in this application.

However, as an election must be made, the claims of Group I claims 1-10 are provisionally elected.

Claims 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18 and 19 have been amended to change the claim dependency.

Claim 21 has been added. Support for this claim is found in original claim 5.

All rights to file one or more divisional applications directed to the subject matter of the nonelected claims and/or any other subject matter disclosed in the specification are preserved.

Applicants submit that the present application is in condition for allowance and favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JANET I. CORD".

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